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PATENT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 046124-5001-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent Application of:)
Masahiro IWAMOTO, et al.) Confirmation No.: 1361
Application No.: 09/902,772) Group Art Unit: 1653
Filed: July 12, 2001) Examiner: Schnizer, Holly G.
For: CELL CALCIFICATION)
SUPPRESSING PROTEINS, AND)
GENES OF THE PROTEINS)

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Sir:

**AMENDMENT & REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.111**

This Reply is responsive to the Office Action dated January 15, 2003, the time period for response to which expired April 15, 2003. An extension of time for three months is being filed concurrently, thereby extending the period for response to July 15, 2003. Entry of the following amendments and reconsideration of the claimed subject matter is respectfully requested.

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